

Article 9. Accessory Buildings and Structures

§ 2422. Application and Scope.

(a) Except as otherwise noted, the requirements of this article shall apply to the construction, use, maintenance, and occupancy of accessory buildings or structures and building components constructed or installed adjacent to units both within and outside of parks.

(b) Accessory buildings or structures, or building components that are constructed and maintained in accordance with those statutes and regulations which were in effect on the date of original construction, are not subject to the requirements of subsequent regulations. An accessory building or structure or building component that is moved to a different location shall be subject to the permit to construct requirements of this chapter. Any alterations or additions must comply with the current provisions of this chapter.

(c) Accessory structures, excluding those not requiring a permit to construct as set forth in section 2018 of this chapter, shall not be attached to, be supported by, or transmit any loads to, a recreational vehicle.

(d) Accessory buildings and structures or building components, installed on a MH-unit lot in a special occupancy park, shall comply with the existing requirements in section 1429 of chapter 2.

(e) Stairways and ramps required for ingress and egress for camping cabins shall be freestanding and are the only accessory structures permitted on a lot with a camping cabin.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 18865, Health and Safety Code. Reference: Sections 18863.4 and 18871.3, Health and Safety Code.

§ 2424. Regulated Structures.

(a) Accessory buildings or structures or building components which do not comply with this article or are deemed to be unsafe by the enforcement agency shall not be allowed, constructed, or occupied.

(b) A permit shall be obtained from the enforcement agency to construct or install an accessory building or structure as required by Article 1 of this chapter, unless specifically exempted in section 2018 of this chapter.

(c) Cabanas, garages and storage buildings shall not be constructed or installed in special occupancy parks except on lots designated for MH-units as specified in section 2118 of this chapter.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 18865, Health and Safety Code. Reference: Sections 18863.4, 18865, 18870 and 18871.3, Health and Safety Code.

§ 2428. Location.

(a) In parks, accessory buildings or structures, or any part thereof, on a lot shall maintain the following setbacks from lot lines:

(1) When constructed of noncombustible materials:

(A) may be up to the lot line, provided a minimum three (3) foot clearance is maintained from any other unit, accessory building or structure, or building component on adjacent lots.

(2) When constructed of combustible materials:

(A) a minimum three (3) foot clearance from all lot lines, and

(B) a minimum six (6) foot clearance from any other unit, accessory buildings or structures, or building components on adjacent lots constructed of combustible materials.

(b) Location requirements governing cabanas, private garages, and storage buildings, permitted by section 2118 of this chapter, are found in Article 9 of Chapter 2 of this division.

(c) Stairways with landings less than twelve (12) square feet may be installed to the lot line provided they are located a minimum of three (3) feet from any unit or accessory building or structure on an adjacent lot including another stairway.

(d) Fencing of any material, that meets the requirements of section 2514 of this article, may be installed up to a lot line.

(e) No portion of an accessory building or structure, or building component shall project over or beyond a lot line.

(f) Any permitted accessory building or structure, or building component may be installed up to a lot line bordering a roadway provided the limitations of section 2110 of this chapter are not exceeded.

(g) Wood awning or carport support posts four (4) inches or greater in nominal thickness may be located up to a lot line provided the remainder of the awning or carport is composed of noncombustible material.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 18865, Health and Safety Code. Reference: Sections 18871.3 and 18872, Health and Safety Code.

§ 2429. Required Exits.

(a) An awning enclosure may be constructed or installed to enclose an emergency exit window from a sleeping room within a unit provided the enclosed area adjacent to the emergency exit window has a door not less than twenty-eight (28) inches in width and seventy-four (74) inches in height providing direct access to the outside.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 18865, Health and Safety Code. Reference: Sections 18871.3 and 18872, Health and Safety Code.

§ 2432. Construction.

(a) Construction and installation of accessory buildings or structures or building components shall comply with the structural requirements for permanent buildings, except as otherwise provided by this article. The enforcement agency may require that accessory buildings and structures or building components be designed and constructed to withstand live loads, vertical uplift or horizontal forces from any direction in excess of the minimum loads specified in this chapter, based on local geologic, topographic, or climatic conditions, when approved by the department.

(b) Accessory buildings and structures constructed of aluminum or aluminum alloy shall be designed to conform to the specifications contained in the California Building Code, Chapter 20.

(c) Unless data to substantiate the use of higher values is submitted to the enforcement agency, the allowable loading of accessory buildings and structures or building components on the soil shall not exceed one-thousand (1,000) psf vertical soil bearing pressure, one hundred fifty (150) psf of depth lateral soil bearing pressure, and one hundred sixty-seven (167) psf frictional resistance for uncased cast-in place concrete piles.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 18865, Health as Safety Code. Reference: Sections 18871.3 and 18873, Health and Safety Code.

§ 2433. Roof Live Load.

(a) Except as provided in this article, every cabana installed on or after July 31, 1976, or every accessory building or structure or building component installed on or after June 10, 1979, shall have the capacity to resist the applicable minimum snow load of the region in which it is installed or as is provided by this section.

TABLE 2433-1 General Roof Live Load Requirements for Accessory Buildings and Structures and Building Components					
Region I		Region II		Region III	
Elevation	Roof Live Load	Elevation	Roof Live Load	Elevation	Roof Live Load
All Elevations	20 psf	0-3000 ft.	20 psf	0-2000 ft.	20 psf
		3001-3500 ft.	30 psf	2001-3000 ft.	30 psf
		3501-5000 ft.	60 psf	3001-4000 ft.	60 psf
				4001-5000 ft.	80 psf

Table 2433-1 shall apply except where either greater or lesser snow loads have been established through survey of the region, and approved by the department.

(1) Region I includes the following counties:

Alameda, Butte, Colusa, Contra Costa, Del Norte, Glenn, Humboldt, Imperial, Kings, Lake, Los Angeles, Marin, Mendocino, Merced, Monterey, Napa, Orange, Sacramento, San Benito, San Diego, San Francisco, San Joaquin, San Luis Obispo, San Mateo, Santa Barbara, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Solano, Sonoma, Stanislaus, Sutter, Ventura, Yolo.

(2) Region II includes the following counties:

Amador, Fresno, Inyo, Kern, Modoc, Riverside, San Bernardino, Siskiyou.

(3) Region III includes the following counties:

Alpine, Calaveras, El Dorado, Lassen, Madera, Mariposa, Mono, Nevada, Placer, Plumas, Shasta, Sierra, Tehama, Trinity, Tulare, Tuolumne, Yuba.

(b) Parks that have received approval for a snow roof load maintenance program prior to July 7, 2004, shall maintain the snow roof load maintenance program, as long as accessory buildings or structures, or building components in the park do not meet the minimum roof loads for the area. Accessory buildings or structures or building components installed after July 7, 2004, must have the capacity to resist the applicable minimum roof live loads of the region in which it is installed, as set forth in table 2433-1.

(c) The park owner or operator shall be responsible for the continued management of an existing snow roof load maintenance program approved for the park.

(d) Roof live load requirements shall not apply to storage cabinets.

(e) Accessory structures may be relocated from one park to another and reinstalled under permit within another park, provided the requirements for roof live load in the new park are not greater than the requirements of the park in which the accessory structure was previously installed.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 18865, Health and Safety Code. Reference: Section 18871.3, Health and Safety Code.

§ 2434. Calculations and Test Procedures.

(a) The load bearing capacity of elements or assemblies shall be established by calculations in accordance with generally established principles of engineering design. However, when the composition or configuration of elements, assemblies or details of structural members are such that calculations of their safe load-carrying capacity and basic structural integrity cannot be accurately determined in accordance with generally established principles of engineering design, structural properties of such elements or assemblies may be established by the results of tests that are designed and certified by an architect or engineer, with the test results approved by the department.

(b) When any structural design or method of construction is substantiated by calculations and supporting data, the calculations and supporting data shall be approved by an architect or engineer and shall be submitted to the department.

(c) When the design of accessory structures is substantiated by calculations or tests, all structural plans shall be approved by the architect or engineer in charge of the total design.

(d) When any design or method of construction is substantiated by tests, all those tests shall be performed by an approved testing agency acceptable to the department or shall be directed, witnessed, and evaluated by an independent architect or engineer. All test procedures and results shall be reviewed, evaluated, and signed by an architect or engineer. The approved testing agency, architect, or engineer shall submit the evaluation of test results, calculations, and recommendations, to the department. The department may require that a representative of the department witness the test.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 18865, Health and Safety Code. Reference: Section 18871.3, Health and Safety Code.

§ 2436 Electrical Installations.

(a) Electrical equipment and installations within an accessory building or structure or building component and the circuit supplying power shall be installed by a permanent wiring method and shall comply with the requirements for electrical installations of this chapter.

(b) Flexible cord shall not be used to supply an accessory building or structure or building component, or as a substitute for the fixed wiring of an accessory building or structure or building component.

(c) Unless otherwise specified by this article, electrical service provided to an accessory building or structure or building component shall be supplied from the lot service equipment, provided:

(1) a permit is obtained to alter the lot electrical service by installing a separate overcurrent protective device rated not more than the total calculated electrical load, and

(2) the lot service equipment is capable of supplying the additional load, and

(3) the overcurrent protective device and its installation complies with the California Electrical Code.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 18865, Health and Safety Code. Reference: Sections 18871.3 and 18873.3, Health and Safety Code.

§ 2438 Mechanical Installations.

Fuel gas piping, heating, ventilating, related equipment, and fireplaces shall not be constructed or installed in, or in conjunction with, an accessory building or structure.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 18865, Health and Safety Code. Reference: Sections 18871.3, 18873.1, and 18873.4, Health and Safety Code.

§ 2440 Plumbing.

(a) The requirements for plumbing systems and equipment installed in accessory structures are found in the California Plumbing Code, except as otherwise specified in this article.

(b) An accessory structure directly connected to the water distribution system of a park shall be connected with piping and fittings listed and approved for that purpose. Flexible hose shall not be used as a substitute for water piping or connections.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 18865, Health and Safety Code. Reference: Sections 18871.3, 18871.4, 1873.1, and 18873.1, Health and Safety Code.

§ 2442 Foam Building System Flammability Standards.

The requirements of section 24 of this Title, shall apply to the use of any foam plastic or foam plastic building system used in the construction of accessory buildings or structures.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 18865, Health and Safety Code. Reference: Sections 18871.3 and 18873.5, Health and Safety Code.

§ 2443. Private Garages, Cabanas, and Storage Buildings.

(a) Garages, cabanas and storage buildings shall be located only on lots designated for manufactured homes or mobilehomes in accordance with section 2118.

(b) When permitted, garages, cabanas and storage buildings shall comply with the requirements contained in chapter 2 of this Division.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 18865, Health and Safety Code. Reference: Sections 18871.3 and 18872, Health and Safety Code.

§ 2444. Cabanas.

(a) Cabanas shall be located only on lots designated for manufactured homes or mobilehomes in accordance with section 2118.

(b) When permitted, cabana construction and installation shall comply with the requirements contained in chapter 2 of this Division.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 18865, Health and Safety Code. Reference: Section 18871.3, Health and Safety Code.

§ 2466 Awning—Permitted.

An awning may be erected, constructed, or maintained only as an accessory structure to a recreational vehicle located on the same lot.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 18865, Health and Safety Code. Reference: Sections 18871.3 and 18872, Health and Safety Code.

§ 2468. Awning-Design and Construction.

(a) An awning and its structural parts, except cloth, canvas, or similar flexible materials, shall be designed, constructed, and erected to adequately support all dead loads plus a minimum vertical live load of ten (10) psf except that snow loads shall be used where snow loads exceed this minimum. Requirements for the design of awnings necessary to resist minimum horizontal wind pressure are contained in the California Building Code Appendix Chapter 31.

(b) Awnings shall be completely freestanding and shall not transmit any loads to a recreational vehicle.

Exception: portable awnings constructed of cloth, canvas, or other flexible material may be attached to the unit.

(c) Flashing or sealing materials may be used to provide a weather seal between a freestanding awning and a unit. No separation is required between a freestanding awning and an attached awning located on the same lot.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 18865, Health and Safety Code. Reference: Section 18871.3, Health and Safety Code.

§ 2470. Awning-Dimensions.

(a) A freestanding awning is not limited as to width or length, except that the total occupied area of a lot, including all accessory building or structures, shall not exceed seventy-five (75) percent of the lot area in accordance with section 2110 of this chapter.

(b) The minimum clear height of any awning shall not be less than seventy-four (74) inches.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 18865, Health and Safety Code. Reference: Sections 18871.3 and 18872, Health and Safety Code.

§ 2472. Awning-Foundations.

Concrete slabs may be considered to have an allowable load bearing capacity of three hundred-fifty (350) pounds per column. The enforcement agency may accept a loading not to exceed five hundred (500) pounds per column, provided the slab is not less than three and one-half (3½) inches thick and in good condition. The weight of individual poured concrete footings shall be one and one-half (1½) times the calculated uplift force. The weight of concrete shall be assumed to be not more than one hundred forty-five (145) pounds per cubic foot.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 18865, Health and Safety Code. Reference: Section 18871.3, Health and Safety Code.

§ 2474. Awning-Enclosures.

(a) Awning enclosures shall be used only for recreational or outdoor living purposes and shall not be used as carports or storage rooms nor shall they be constructed or converted for use as a habitable room or a cabana.

(b) Combustible material used for awning enclosures shall not be installed within three (3) feet of the lot line pursuant to section 2428 of this chapter.

(c) Awnings may be enclosed or partially enclosed as follows:

(1) With insect screening or removable flexible plastic material. Awning drop or side curtains shall not be permanently fastened at the sides or bottom (A permit to construct is not required).

(2) With rigid, readily removable transparent, or translucent materials.

(3) Awnings may be partially enclosed with solid panels, provided the solid panels do not exceed fifty (50) percent of the total wall area.

(4) When an awning is completely enclosed with rigid material, fifty (50) percent of the total wall area shall be translucent or transparent material, of which twenty-five (25) percent of the total wall area shall be able to be opened for ventilation. Exiting requirements shall meet the requirements for a cabana.

(d) Where an awning is erected or constructed immediately adjacent to or over a permanently constructed retaining wall of fire resistant material, there shall be not less than eighteen (18) inches clear ventilating opening between the underside of the awning roof and the top of the wall extending the full length of the awning.

(e) An awning shall not be enclosed unless the enclosure is designed and constructed as a freestanding structure or unless the awning is designed and constructed to withstand the additional forces imposed by the enclosure.

(f) The requirements for awning enclosures are contained in the California Building Code, Appendix Chapter 31.

(g) Heating or cooking appliances or facilities shall not be installed or used within an awning enclosure.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 18865, Health and Safety Code. Reference: Sections 18871.3 and 18872, Health and Safety Code.

§ 2478. Carport-Permitted.

(a) A carport may be constructed or maintained on a lot only as an accessory structure to a unit located on the same lot.

(b) A freestanding carport, or a common freestanding carport for the use of the occupants of adjacent lots, may be erected on a lot line, provided that such a carport is constructed of material which does not support combustion, and provided that there is a minimum of three (3) feet clearance from a any unit or any other

structure on the adjacent lots. Such freestanding carports may be connected to a unit or other accessory building or structure by an open covered walkway not exceeding six (6) feet in width.

(c) A carport shall be designed and constructed in accordance with the structural requirements for awnings as specified in section 2468.

(d) A carport shall conform to the dimensions specified in section 2470 for awnings.

(e) At least two sides or one side and one end of a carport shall be maintained at least fifty (50) percent open and unobstructed at all times.

(1) A carport which is partially enclosed shall be designed and constructed to withstand the additional lateral forces imposed by such an enclosure as required for awning enclosures.

(2) Where a carport is constructed immediately adjacent to or over a permanently constructed retaining wall of fire resistant material, there shall not be less than eighteen (18) inches clear ventilating opening between the underside of the carport roof and the top of the wall extending the full length of the carport.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 18865, Health and Safety Code. Reference: Sections 18871.3 and 18872, Health and Safety Code.

§ 2486. Ramada-Permitted.

(a) A ramada may be erected, constructed, or maintained on a lot only as an accessory to a unit located or intended to be located on the same lot.

(b) A ramada shall be designed and constructed as a freestanding, self-supporting structure meeting the structural requirements for cabanas as specified in section 1446.

(c) A ramada shall not be enclosed or partially enclosed on any side or end.

(d). A ramada or any portion thereof shall have a clearance of not less than eighteen (18) inches in a vertical direction above any plumbing vent extending through the roof of a unit and not less than six (6) inches in a horizontal direction from each side of a unit.

(e) A minimum of two (2) ventilating openings shall be installed at the highest point in the ramada roof to eliminate the buildup of products from vents or ducts. Vent openings shall be located near the ends of the ramada for cross-ventilation and shall have a minimum cross-sectional area of twenty-eight (28) square inches. Chimneys or vents of fuel burning appliances shall extend through the ramada roof surface and shall terminate in an approved roof jack and cap installed in accordance with the appliance listing and the manufacturer's installation instructions.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 18865, Health and Safety Code. Reference: Sections 18871.3 and 18872, Health and Safety Code.

§ 2496. Exterior Doorways.

(a) Exterior doorways of accessory buildings or structures shall be provided with a porch, ramp, landing, and/or stairway conforming to the provisions of this Article.

(b) The requirements for ramps, landings, porches, and/or stairways are contained in the California Building Code, Chapter 10, except as otherwise provided in this chapter.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 18865, Health and Safety Code. Reference: Sections 18871.3 and 18872, Health and Safety Code.

§ 2498 Landing, Porch, and Stairway-Design and Construction.

(a) Requirements for the design and construction of all structural elements of porches and stairways and railings are contained in the California Building Code, except as otherwise provided by this article. Live loads applicable to porch floors and stairways shall be not less than forty (40) psf. Porches shall be designed and constructed as completely freestanding, self-supporting structures.

(b) Where a door of the unit swings outward onto a landing or porch:

(1) The floor of the exterior landing or porch shall be not more than one (1) inch lower than the bottom of the door; and

(2) The width and depth of the exterior landing or porch serving stairs perpendicular to any outswinging door opening shall not be less than the full width of the door when open at least ninety (90) degrees. Guard rails shall permit the door to open at least ninety (90) degrees.

(c) Where the unit door swings inward or is a sliding door, the landing, porch, or top step of the stairway may be not more than seven and one-half (7½) inches below the door. The width of the landing, porch, or top step of the stairway shall be not less than the width of the door opening.

(d) The stairway may be capable of being relocated and need not be secured to the lot.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 18865, Health as Safety Code. Reference: Section 18871.3, Health and Safety Code.

§ 2500 Porch and Stairway-Foundation.

(a) Porches may be supported on piers in lieu of continuous footings. Individual piers shall be designed and constructed to evenly distribute the loads carried to the footings.

(b) Support footings shall comply with the requirements of either section 2334 of this chapter or the California Building Code.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 18865, Health as Safety Code. Reference: Section 18871.3, Health and Safety Code.

§ 2502 Porch-Guardrails.

Guardrails shall be provided around the perimeter of porches and decks which are thirty (30) inches or more above grade. The requirements for porches and guardrails are contained in the California Building Code, except as otherwise provided in this chapter.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 18865, Health as Safety Code. Reference: Section 18871.3, Health and Safety Code.

§ 2504 Stairway-Handrails.

Every stairway with four (4) or more risers, or stairways exceeding thirty (30) inches, shall be equipped with handrails and intermediate rails.

The requirements for stairways and handrails are contained in the California Building Code, except as otherwise provided in this chapter.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 18865, Health as Safety Code. Reference: Section 18871.3, Health and Safety Code.

§ 2506 Ramps and Handrails.

When a ramp and handrail are to be constructed in place of a stairway, the requirements for the design and construction of the ramp and handrail are contained in the California Building Code.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 18865, Health as Safety Code. Reference: Section 18871.3, Health and Safety Code.

§ 2510 Storage Cabinets-Location.

(a) A storage cabinet may be located immediately adjacent to a unit on the same lot, provided all of the following conditions are met:

(1) The required exits and openings for light and ventilation of the unit, cabana, or building component are not obstructed; and

(2) The location does not prevent service or inspection of the unit's or lot's equipment or utility connections; and

(3) The separation requirements from structures on adjacent lots, contained in section 2428 of this chapter, are maintained.

(b) A storage cabinet shall not be used as a habitable structure, or any part of a habitable structure.

(c) A storage cabinet shall not exceed ten (10) feet in height.

(d) The total, combined floor area of all storage cabinets on a lot shall not exceed one-hundred-twenty (120) square feet.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 18865, Health and Safety Code. Reference: Sections 18871.3 and 18872, Health and Safety Code.

§ 2514 Fence or Windbreak-Height.

(a) A fence located on a lot shall not exceed six (6) feet in height.

(b) A fence exceeding forty-two (42) inches in height, parallel to a unit or habitable accessory building or structure or building component, shall not be located closer than three (3) feet to that unit, habitable accessory building, or structure or building component.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 18865, Health and Safety Code. Reference: Section 18871.3, Health and Safety Code.

§ 2518 Standard Plan Approval.

(a) A standard plan approval may be obtained from the department for a plan for accessory buildings or structures. Department-approved plans shall be accepted by the enforcement agency as approved for the purpose of obtaining a construction permit when the design loads are consistent with the requirements for the locality and the provisions of this chapter.

(b) Requirements regarding the procedure to obtain a standard plan approval are contained in section 2020.9 of this chapter.

(c) Plan check fees shall not be required for accessory buildings or structures for which a standard plan approval has been obtained from the department.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 18865, Health as Safety Code. Reference: Sections 18870.2 and 18871.3, Health and Safety Code.